This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture for use in a computer system for creating a string of Unicode characters stored in a memory of the computer system, said article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said medium which causes the computer system to execute the computer program to perform operations comprising:

creating a constant whose data type is a non-Unicode data type, wherein the constant specifies non-Unicode data to convert to Unicode;

storing a string of non-Unicode characters in the constant which is stored in the memory of the computer;

retrieving a specification of a code page in which the non-Unicode character string is encoded;

translating the non-Unicode character string stored in the constant into a Unicode character string responsive to the specification of the code page; and

storing the Unicode character string in the constant stored in the memory of the computer.

2. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a single byte character set (SBCS) string.

3. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a pure double byte character set (DBCS) string.

4. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a mixed SBCS and DBCS string.

5. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the translation is performed by the computer according to a scope, wherein the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a portion of a computer program identified by the scope.

6. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 5 wherein the scope is global, the global scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in the entire computer program.

7. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 5 wherein the scope is local, the local scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a subsequent portion of the computer program.

8. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 5 wherein the scope is constant specific, the constant specific scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies only to a specific constant.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of creating a string of Unicode characters stored in a memory of a computer, said method comprising:

creating a constant whose data type is a non-Unicode data type, wherein the constant specifies non-Unicode data to convert to Unicode;

storing a string of non-Unicode characters in the constant which is stored in the memory of the computer;

retrieving a specification of a code page in which the non-Unicode character string is encoded;

translating the non-Unicode character string stored in the constant into a Unicode character string responsive to the specification of the code page; and

storing the Unicode character string in the constant stored in the memory of the computer.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a single byte character set (SBCS) string.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a pure double byte character set (DBCS) string.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a mixed SBCS and DBCS string.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the translation is performed by the computer according to a scope, wherein the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a portion of a computer program identified by the scope.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the scope is global, the global scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in the entire computer program.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the scope is local, the local scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a subsequent portion of the computer program.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the scope is constant specific, the constant specific scope specifying that the [[specifciation]] specification of the code page applies only to a specific constant.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer system for creating a string of Unicode characters stored in a memory of the computer system, said computer system comprising:

a constant whose data type is a non-Unicode data type, wherein the constant specifies non-Unicode data to convert to Unicode;

a string of non-Unicode characters stored in the constant which is stored in the memory of the computer;

a specification of a code page in which the non-Unicode character string is encoded retrievable from the memory of the computer system;

a translator for translating the non-Unicode character string stored in the constant into a Unicode character string responsive to the specification of the code page; and

memory for storing the Unicode character string in the constant stored in the memory of the computer.

18. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a single byte character set (SBCS) string.

19. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a pure double byte character set (DBCS) string.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein the non-Unicode character string is a mixed SBCS and DBCS string.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 17 wherein the translation is performed by the computer according to a scope, wherein the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a portion of a computer program identified by the scope.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21 wherein the scope is global, the global scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in the entire computer program.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21 wherein the scope is local, the local scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies to translate constants in a subsequent portion of the computer program.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21 wherein the scope is constant specific, the constant specific scope specifying that the specification of the code page applies only to a specific constant.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the constant is of a named type that specifies that the constant content is to be converted to Unicode.

26. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the constant is of a type that specifies that the constant content is to be converted to Unicode.

27. (New) The computer system of claim 17, wherein the constant is of a type that specifies that the constant content is to be converted to Unicode.